

10,266 IN DAY FALL VICTIMS TO GRIP HERE

Doctors Fail to Report More Than Fifty Per Cent. of Cases.

DISEASE SWEEPING ON Undertakers Under Pressure to Care for Dead—Physicians and Nurses Exhausted.

According to figures based upon an estimate that 50 per cent. or less of the actual cases of influenza are being reported, there were 10,266 new cases yesterday.

There were actually reported half this number, but Health Commissioner Royal S. Copeland believes that only half of the existing cases have been turned in by the physicians.

Roughly estimated, there have been more than 100,000 cases of influenza here since September 18, when the disease was made reportable.

When asked: "How many cases of influenza are there in the city to-day?" Dr. Copeland answered:

"In answering this question let us estimate that the average duration of the disease is seven days. I doubt if the average number of cases reported is about 50 per cent. or less of the total number in the city. Therefore we have about 60,000 cases. This may run considerably higher."

"Upon what basis do you estimate that only 50 per cent. of cases are reported?"

"I base it upon the death rate. Since September 18 we have had reported 45,024 cases, and during the same time have issued death certificates covering influenza and pneumonia to the number of 5,101. If the mortality rate is 10 per cent. as reported, which would be indicated by a comparison of the number of cases reported and the number of deaths reported, the death rate is 8.4 per cent. While military conditions are different from the conditions of civil life, this proportion must be accepted as approximately accurate."

Deaths Set at 5 Per Cent.
Major Lyons, the chief surgeon at Camp Upton, in an address at the Kings County Medical Society last evening, which I heard, gave accurate details of the epidemic in the military camps. For the purpose of approximating the number of people in this city who have actually had influenza, we may safely begin our computation with the number of deaths reported by Major Lyons. Taking, then, the total number of death certificates issued for influenza and pneumonia during the epidemic, and computing with this the number of deaths reported by Major Lyons, we find that the number of deaths reported is 5.1 per cent. of the total number of cases reported. Therefore I conclude that we are having reported to us about 50 per cent. of the actual number of cases in the city."

"What good are the daily figures then, if they are not reliable?" was an inquiry made.

"They give us a very certain index of the progress of the disease in the community."

"There have been statements made by reputable physicians that there are between 100,000 and 150,000 cases of influenza in this city at the present time. Do you want to make any estimate of the percentage of doctors in the city who report their cases?" Dr. Copeland was asked.

"No, there is no present way of arriving at a conclusion."

There were reports from influenza and pneumonia reported for the day ending at 10 o'clock yesterday morning, an increase of 10 over the day previous.

That the epidemic is growing daily at an alarming rate is reflected in the experience of undertakers in this city for the last few days; they have not been able to care for the dead. Many of the funeral homes are overflowing with the dead. Many of the funeral homes are overflowing with the dead. Many of the funeral homes are overflowing with the dead.

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Influenza Under Control in Camps, but Increase Among Civilians

WASHINGTON, Oct. 16.—Continued recession of the influenza epidemic at army camps led Secretary of War Baker to express the opinion to-night that measures taken by the Surgeon-General's department had brought the disease under control.

Despite the improved situation among the soldiers the epidemic apparently still is spreading among the civilian population in all parts of the country. The greatest improvement was reported from New Jersey and Vermont. Estimates made to-night placed the number of cases in Connecticut at 110,000, while Virginia was reported to be suffering under a total of 200,000 cases.

Government clerks here began to-day the wearing of gauze masks in the street cars and while at their desks. The masks also were in general use in the barber shops and to some extent in other public places.

Up to noon to-day only 710 deaths were reported in army camps, a decrease of 179 over the day before. New influenza cases in the camps numbered 5,668, against 6,498 the day before and against nearly twice that number only 1,800 the day before. Since the beginning of the epidemic there have been a total of 282,186 influenza cases reported from all the camps, 39,376 cases of pneumonia and 12,340 deaths.

Deaths in Washington in the twenty-four hour period ended at 9 o'clock to-night numbered 87, a decrease of 1 from yesterday. New cases of influenza and pneumonia fell off sharply to-day, the number reported being 932, compared with 1,433 yesterday. City health authorities emphasized, however, that most physicians were too busy to make reports on new cases, and that the number of deaths must be taken as an indication of the incidence of the malady.

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WILL MAKE MEAT PROFITEERS REFUND

Federal Food Board to Hear Cases of 234 Retail Butchers at Once.

GUILTY MUST DISGORGE Cheese Barred From Free Lunches to Save It for the Army.

If the 234 retail butchers who must face the Federal Food Board on charges of profiteering are found guilty it is known that one of the penalties to be exacted will be restitution, so far as possible, of all overcharges.

Restitution of this character has been insisted upon by John Mitchell, president of the board, and Arthur Williams, Federal Food Administrator for this city, in all similar cases heretofore adjudicated by the board, and there isn't the slightest chance that any butcher can dodge it in the event of conviction.

The complaints against the butchers are based upon evidence obtained by the complaint division of the board from the books of the butchers themselves. It is assumed the butchers' records tell a truthful story—in many instances it is a startling one of excessive profits—and that is why the Federal Food Board considered it their duty to the public to bring them up with a round turn and prevent consumers from being gouged further.

Excessive Profits Indicated.
As the butchers' books in many instances show that the butchery demanded of customers from 10 to 13 cents a pound more than the board's allowed profit, it is a foregone conclusion that the butchers are profiteers. It is likely that a good sized bunch of them will be found guilty.

The Federal Food Board will be glad to hear from housewives of agencies of overcharging by butchers, an official at the board's headquarters said yesterday afternoon.

It is an open secret that members of the Federal Food Administration have believed for a long time that certain men in the business of selling food, who were not members of the board, were liable to the suspicion that money getting means more to them than these days the patriotic sentiment.

"No man who profits on profiteering during this war can claim to be a patriot, even though he does buy a Liberty bond," was the way one official put it.

The first batch of butchers summoned before the board to defend themselves against charges of alleged profiteering will be according to reports, beginning at 10 A. M. The cases will be heard by John Mitchell and Mr. Williams.

No More Free Lunch Cheese.
If the evidence in the early cases backs up the formal complaints it is likely to lead to a ban on free lunch cheese. The Federal Food Board issued yesterday a request to hotels and cafes to eliminate cheese from their free lunch counters owing to the tremendous demands for cheese by our army and our allies. The board also asked the owners of the free lunch counters to stop serving free lunch cheese to "crackers, pickles and olives."

All public eating places were asked to stop serving free lunch cheese. The month dressed turkeys were the hens were less than six and one-half pounds and the gobbler less than nine pounds.

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MURDERER SINKS CRASH OFF CONEY

Naval Collier Proteus Rams Port Phillip, Loaded With Shells and Bombs.

Freighter Goes Down in 40 Feet of Water, but \$1,000,000 Cargo Will Be Saved.

The British freighter Port Phillip, with a million dollar cargo of munitions, including depth bombs, was sunk yesterday in a collision with the naval collier Proteus off Norton's Point, Coney Island, on the verge of the Ambrose Channel, in about forty feet of water.

The Proteus was unaffected by the shock, and with the rest of the cargo will be raised probably in several weeks by Government wreckers.

The Port Phillip, bound for a British port, came out of Gravesend Bay as the giant collier was heading eastward. The sea was unusually smooth and the air clear, although slightly misty.

The Port Phillip and the Proteus collided, and a few seconds later the freighter's port quarter, letting in a flood that swiftly put out her fires and forced her engine room force to the deck.

The freighter's skipper, Capt. John Jack, made an effort to get the vessel into shoal water, but she went down on the required depth. The Proteus was picked up by the Coast Guard cutter Hudson, whose commander, Lieut. A. P. Wilder, had seen the collision.

Some of the engine room crewmen who took to their posts until driven to the deck by the rising water jumped overboard. The rest of the crew abandoned ship, and a few seconds later the freighter went down and capsized. No one was injured. The ship's mascot, a money bag, was saved.

The collier's bow was damaged and she was under way. She returned and anchored off the Statue of Liberty.

It is said the collision was due to a misunderstanding. The Proteus was under charter to the Cunard Line. She measured 4,000 gross tons.

In obtaining the parole of the witnesses, Mr. Littleton promised to have the appeal papers ready in ten days.

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SLAIN IN GANG WAR AS HE QUITS TAXI

Liquor Dealer Attacked by 4—Two Other Shootings.

James Kennedy, 35, stepped from a taxi early yesterday at Second Avenue and East Twenty-seventh street. Four men ran from the shadow of a building. Two fired at Kennedy. A bullet entered the left side of Kennedy's neck and the other penetrated his heart.

Patrolman Charles Wangerman reached the spot almost immediately. Kennedy staggered toward the police station and said: "I have been shot."

Then the man collapsed, and before an ambulance could take him to Bellevue hospital he died. The four men who were seen running from the scene of the shooting have been arrested.

The murder was a chapter in a new downtown gang war which started earlier in the night in a saloon near Hudson and Tenth streets.

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STANDARD OIL STIRS BUDGET WRANGLING

Mayor Objects to Comparison of City Payroll With That of Corporation.

SCHOOL BOARD YIELDS Building Programme and Salary Increases Not Pressed by President Somers.

Budgetary appropriations for the Board of Education and the Public Service Commission were the most important items considered at the public hearing of the Board of Estimate yesterday.

There was a heated wrangle between Dr. Charles Norris, Chief Medical Examiner, and the Mayor and other members of the board when the doctor undertook to cast aspersions on William J. Flynn, who was sitting as acting President of the Board.

Timothy P. Healy, national head of the Union of Stationary Engineers, appeared to inquire if the prevailing rate of wages was to be maintained for members of his union. He exhibited pay envelopes of the Standard Oil Company to show that it was paying more than the city.

"We can't compete with the Standard Oil Company," said the Mayor. "It runs the city until this administration came into office. As soon as the Standard Oil Company was taken over by the old administration, it wanted to raise salaries."

A little later Mr. Healy referred again to Standard Oil. "Oh, please, talk about something else," the Mayor snapped.

Mayor Stands by Flynn.
Dr. Norris was pleading for an assistant, saying that two of his assistants were sick and that his force was overworked because of the prevalence of influenza. He could not understand that by the time the money from the new budget became available the epidemic would be over.

The Medical Examiner seemed to be in a hurry to get the Board of Estimate to pass the budget. President Flynn had prevented serious consideration of his requests for additional appropriations and intimated that sometimes the statements of Mr. Flynn could not be relied upon.